

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-6, 8-11, 13-15, 17, and 20 have been amended, claims 7, 12, and 16 have cancelled, and new claims 21-26 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-6, 8-11, 13-15, 17, and 20-26 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 9, 20, and 21 are independent claims. Applicant appreciates the indication that claims 7, 16, and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Entry of the Amendments and Remarks is respectfully requested because entry of Amendment places the present application in condition for allowance, or in the alternative, better form for appeal. No new matters are believed to be added by these Amendments. In view of the above amendments and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending objections and rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Claim Objection

In the Office Action, claims 7, 16, and 17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that the reference cited in the Examiner's rejection of the independent claims 1 and 9 upon which the objected claims are based, fails to anticipate those claims, as currently amended. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 7, 16, and 17 overcome the stated objection in light of the following remarks made in response to the Section 102 rejections of independent claims 1 and 9. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection for claims 7, 16, and 17.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-6, 9-15, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,592,199 issued to Kawaguchi, *et al.* ("Kawaguchi"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1, as amended, describes a driving module comprising, among other things, a driving signal line group:

wherein the driving signal line group comprises a plurality of driving signal input lines which are formed on the flexible board to provide the driving signal to the driving circuit; a plurality of driving signal bypass lines which are formed on the flexible board to provide the driving signal supplied from the driving circuit to a next circuit; and a plurality of driving signal output lines which are connected to the driving circuit to provide the driving signal supplied from the driving circuit to the display circuit,

wherein the inspecting patterns include a first inspecting pattern formed at the driving signal input line, and a second inspection pattern formed at the driving signal bypass line, such that the first inspecting pattern is not electrically connected to the second pattern.

Furthermore, independent claim 9, as amended, also recites inspecting patterns:

wherein the inspecting patterns include a first inspecting pattern formed at first driving signal lines of the driving signal line groups, and a second inspection pattern formed at second driving signal lines of the driving signal line groups, such that the first inspecting pattern is not electrically connected to the second inspecting pattern.

In addition, independent claim 20 states:

a portion of the plurality of input signal lines and signal bypass lines includes inspecting patterns to allow for inspection of an electrical signal in the plurality of input signal lines.

For example, Figure 5 shows an embodiment of the present invention where inspecting patterns 258a, 258b, 258c, 258d, 258e, and 258f are formed on the gate driving signal input lines 253, 255, and 257 and the gate driving signal bypass lines 254, 256, and 258. Applicant respectfully submits that Kawaguchi does not contain all of the features of claims 1, 9, and 20 as amended, and therefore does not anticipate these claims or those claims dependent upon them.

Kawaguchi describes a liquid crystal panel with flexible wiring boards each having an integrated circuit for driving the liquid crystal panel, but it fails to teach the inspecting patterns on the driving signal lines of claims 1, 9, and 20 of the present invention. As cited by the Examiner in the Office Action, Figure 14 demonstrates and column 22, lines 51-61 recite the possible use of a prober terminal for performance tests. In order for this performance test, the base material surface 140 of the flexible wiring board 104 corresponding to the input terminal 144, the output terminal 142, and the third junction terminal 148 are removed and an opening 98 is provided. Then the prober terminal is thrown in contact with the input terminal, output terminal, or the third junction terminal of the flexible wiring board. Kawaguchi's performance test does not include two sets of inspecting patterns on the driving line signals as in claims 1, 9, and 20. Since Kawaguchi does not teach the limitations of claims 1, 9, and 20, these claims are patentable over Kawaguchi.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1-6, 9-15, and 20. Since none of the other prior art of record discloses or suggests all the features of the claimed invention, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 9, and 20 and all the claims that depend therefrom are allowable.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,592,199 issued to Kawaguchi, *et al.* ("Kawaguchi") in view of U. S. Patent No. 5,959,713 issued to Kobayashi, *et al.* ("Kobayashi"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 8, as amended, recites:

The driving module of claim 4, wherein each of the inspecting patterns is wider than each gate driving signal input line and gate driving signal bypass line.

As discussed previously, claim 1, upon which claim 8 is based, is patentable over Kawaguchi. Applicant respectfully submits that the proposed combination of Kawaguchi and Kobayashi fails to disclose or suggest all of the features claimed in Claim 8.

The Examiner correctly states that Kawaguchi does not teach inspecting means formed by point-shaped patterns having an area larger than an area of each gate driving signal input line and gate driving signal bypass line. But the Examiner also states that Kobayashi teaches an inspecting means formed by point-shaped patterns having an area larger than the lines. Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner incorrectly construed the language of Kobayashi.

Kobayashi describes the inspection probes 16 and 17 of Figure 4 in Col. 7, lines 10-13.

The inspection probes 16 and 17, which have a tip contact portion having an area less than or equal to that of the electrode to the inspected are connected to an inspection circuit.

Based on the unambiguous specification language, it is clear that the probes of Kobayashi have an area that is smaller than that of the lines. In stark contrast, claim 8 describes inspecting patterns that have a larger width than that of the lines. The combination of Kawaguchi and

Kobayashi fails to teach all the limitations of claim 8, thus claim 8 is patentable over Kawaguchi and Kobayashi.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claim 8. Since none of the other prior art of record, whether taken alone or in any combination, discloses or suggests all the features of the claimed invention, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claim 8 is allowable.


CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submits that all of the stated objections and grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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